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FARM AND HOME HOUR

ADVERTISER

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS

WRITER SODE #430

PROGRAM TITLE

WMAQ BLUE

OK

11:30-12:30 NOON

APRIL 10, 1941

FRIDAY

CHICAGO OUTLET

(

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(

)

(

)

TIME

DATE

DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

1. ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers"

2. MUSIC: THEME

3. ANNOUNCER: In the United States the philosophy of cut-out-and-move-on
4. in the forests has always been dominant. When our Nation
5. was young cutting-out-and-moving-on helped speed things up. And we
6. did grow quickly, as history proves, expanding ever westward into new
7. and virgin country which yielded riches that also helped support more
8. people and more industries in the South and in the East. But as we
9. grew from a Nation of three million people to a Nation of 130 million
10. people the philosophy of cut-out-and-move-on created and aggravated many
11. social and economic difficulties that we can no longer afford to ignore.
12. This philosophy has brought insecurity to people and communities in
13. many regions; instead of building up a forest reserve, it depleted a
14. forest reserve we once had; and not only that, it impaired and crippled
15. the power of millions of acres of forest land to produce new wealth.
16. It would appear therefore that, even at this late date, we should stop
17. destructive exploitation of our forest resource and build it up again.
18. A constructive forest program dominated by this kind of philosophy
19. would go a long ways to help keep the United States permanently
20. strong and prosperous.

21. Now let's see what's happening on the Pine Cone National
22. Forest. Our friends Ranger Jim Robbins and his assistant, Jerry Quick,
23. are keenly aware that it won't be long now 'till the season of greatest
24. fire danger will again be on them, so, imbued with the truth of old
25. saying, "forewarned is forearmed," Jim and Jerry are right now
discussing ways and means of combating that old devil fire if and when
he pops up. We find the two in the Ranger Station.....

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JERRY: I wish I could take things as calmly as you do, Jim.

JIM: Worryin' never got a fella anywhere, Jerry.

JERRY: Yeah, so I've heard, but Jim, this doggoned serious. We've never headed into a fire season in the shape we're in now. You know, yourself, that our trained CCC crews are kinda out up what with some of them leaving for jobs in defense industries and quite a few ending their regular period of enrollment this month.

JIM: Dave Parsons has already started his fire training Jerry. He's never let us down in providing cracker-jack CCC crews during a fire season.

JERRY: All right, but what about our fire guards and our local crews? Matt Jones will be called soon for army service and so will Bud Simpson and Burt Tolliver. We'll need a guard to replace Matt and what's worse where're we going to find a fire boss to take Bud Simpson's place?

JIM: That's going to be the toughest problem, all right, replacin^g Bud. I agree with you, Jerry, that things look a little tougher this year maybe than they've been in past years, but that's our job, to do the best we can with what we've got.

JERRY: And a lot of fellows we could normally get to help us fight fire, they're leaving these parts, too, for jobs in factories and the like.

Thank you, Jerry... You're right, Jim. It is a good poster, one of the best we've ever had, I think.

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JERRY:

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1. JIM: There'll be others to take their places, Jerry. Our biggest
2. job as I see it will be to get a fireboss for that key crew
3. of ours. I've been doing some thinking about that and I
4. JERRY: Wait...here comes Mrs. Robbins up the walk....and she's
5. sure loaded down with something.
6. JIM: She's been to town. Open the door, Jerry.....(DOOR OPENS)
7. Here, let me take that package. Good grief, Bess, you
8. shouldn't have lugged this all the way from town.
9. BESS: Thanks, Jim. I didn't think it was so heavy when I told the
10. post-master I'd take it along with me....Hello, Jerry.
11. DOOR CLOSES
12. JERRY: Hello, Mrs. Robbins. Our new mail-carrier, huh? But Jim's
13. right. We could have gone after it.....What is it, Jim?
14. Those new firecontrol maps we've been asking for?
15. JIM: Don't know, Jerry. Don't think so though. This isn't from
16. the Supervisor. Shipped direct from the Regional Office.
17. Better open it and see....(SOUND OF RUSTLING PAPERS)
18. JERRY: Here's a chair, Mrs. Robbins. Sit down and rest.
19. BESS: Thanks, Jerry.
20. JIM: Say, this is fine, mighty fine.
21. JERRY: Well, don't hog it, Jim. Let me see....Oh, it's some new
22. fire prevention posters.....Say, it's a honey! Here, Mrs.
23. Robbins. Here's one you can look at too.
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23. Robbins. Here's one you can look at too.
24. BEES: Thank you, Jerry...You're right, Jim. It is a good poster,
25. one of the best we've ever had, I think.

1. JIM: Yeah, a lot of schools and stores and other places'll be
2. glad to have copies of this to display.

3. JERRY: There's the whole story here, Jim. See? The flames
4. eating away at the forest and those two men in the foreground
5. hard at work with their shovels putting the fire out.
6. Folks ought to get the idea all right after seeing a poster
7. like this.

8. BESS: Then there's that message at the bottom, too, Jerry. About
9. what to do with your matches and campfires and all, to
10. prevent forest fires.

11. JERRY: Say, those flames look so real you can almost smell the
12. smoke. And look at that man up front, the way he's gripping
13. that shovel like he'd fought fire hundreds of times. You
14. know, Jim, I feel like that fellow and I were old friends.
15. He's so real and familiar like.

16. JIM: Uh huh. I've been studying him too, Jerry....Maybe I'm
17. crazy but I'd bet anything I know that man.

18. BESS: Jim, that's silly. It's just an imaginary scene the artist
19. created....And yet....

20. JIM: Yeah? And yet what, Bess?

21. BESS: He does look like some one I've known, too. Why, it's the
22. strangest thing.

23. JERRY: (EXCITED) I got it! I got it! It's old George MacDonald
24.That's who it is...old fire-eater MacDonald himself.
25.

...a lot of ... and ...

...to have ... of this ...

...the whole ... here ...

...away at the ... and those two men in the ...

...at work with ... putting the ...

...ought to get the ... right after seeing a ...

...then there's that message at the bottom ...

...to do with your ... and ... and ...

...hey, those ... look so ... you can almost ...

...and look at that ... up front, the way ...

...that ... like he'd ... the ... of ...

...know, ... I feel like that ... and I ...

...oh huh, I've been ... him too, ...

...okay but I'd ... anything I know that ...

...that's ... It's just an ... even the ...

...and ...

...Yeah, ... what, ...

...he does look like ... one I ...

...strange ...

(EXCITED) I got ... I got ...

...That's who it is ... old ...

1. JIM: That's what I've been thinking, Jerry. But, like Bess says,
2. it must be just a coincidence.....

3. BESS: Jim, now that you've mentioned it I've never seen such a
4. startling resemblance. It's...well, it's uncanny.

5. JIM: Let's see....Mac left here some four years ago, after that
6. fire burned out his little ranch, and he hasn't been heard
7. from since. Maybe it could as well be him on this poster
8. here as anyone else, I reckon.

9. JERRY: The best fire boss we've ever had. George MacDonald....
10. It sure looks like him, Jim. But it couldn't be, really.
11. Things like that don't happen in real life.

12. BESS: Of course they don't. The artist probably had his studio
13. in New York City....at least that's where the last fire
14. prevention poster was painted. And New York would be the last
15. place you'd expect George MacDonald to turn up in....

16. JERRY: Boy, if it really was old fire-boss MacDonald and we could
17. get him back here, it'd solve one of our big problems, huh
18. Jim?

19. JIM: It'd be too good to be true, Jerry, but....

20. BESS: Yes, Jim?

21. JIM: Just the same, I'm not going to be satisfied 'til I find out
22. who that fella in on this poster. I'm going to find out if
23. the artist made him up out of his own mind or used a model.
24. And if he used a model I want to know who it was.

25. JERRY: I'm with you, Jim. But that'll take some time, won't it?
Going through the regular channels and all?

1. JIM: This is one time I'm not going through channels, Jerry. I'll
2. send a copy of my letter to the Supervisor but I'm going to
3. write direct to the Chief's Office in Washington. Mr.
4. Headley will get the information for me, I know,

5. BESS: Mr. Headley?

6. JERRY: You know him, Bess. Chief of Fire Control in the Washington
7. Office. He came out here on the Pine Cone a couple years
8. back.

9. BESS: Yes, I do remember him, now. He's the one who praised my
10. mutton and turnips so highly at supper one night, while
11. he was out here.

12. JIM: (CHUCKLING) There's a memory for you, Jerry....But,
13. seriously, I'm sure Mr. Headley's office can tell us right
14. away what we want to know. Come on, let's get that letter
15. on its way,

16. JERRY: Right, Jim. I've got my fingers crossed, but here's hoping
17. we're on Mac's trail and that (FADE) we can get him back
18. here.

19. MUSICAL INTERLUDE

20. MARY: Jerry, I wish you'd stop teasing me and tell me right off
21. whether it is George MacDonald or not.....Mrs Robbins,
22. can't you tell me?

23. BESS: Jerry insisted on telling you the whole story, Mary, and
24. I promised him I wouldn't interfere.

25. JERRY: Yeah, Mary, no use your getting impatient.

...the time I had a very high fever...
...and a copy of my letter to the...
...with a view to the...
...Hendry will get the information for me I know.

You know Miss Bass, that of these...
...College. He came out here on his...
...back.

Yes, I do remember him now. He's...
...he was out here.

...on his way.

Right, then. I've got my...
...we're on the... (SHE) no one...

...whether to the George...
...the...

...from...
...the...

1. MARY: Go on, then, go on. You and Mr. Robbins wrote to Mr.
2. Headley and then what happened?

3. JERRY: Well, Jim got a reply right back yesterday. Mr. Headley
4. took about three pages to tell all about the new fire
5. prevention poster, how a lot of people cooperated and

6. MARY: Jerry, you're downright mean. What I want to know is did some
7. one model for the poster and who was it if the artist did
8. use a model.

9. BESS: (LAUGHING) Jerry, you shouldn't....

10. JERRY: I know, Mrs. Robbins, I know...But I'm going to tell this
11. story in my own way. Where was I now?

12. MARY: You were talking about the model the artist used in painting
13. the poster.

14. JERRY: Was I ? I didn't think I'd gotten that far. Well, anyway,
15. he did use a model. But that isn't as important as how and
16. where he got the man that posed for him....did you say
17. something, Mary?

18. BESS: Go on, Jerry, do go on. Can't you see Mary's about ready to
19. throw something at you?

20. JERRY: Mary, you put that ink well down...There, that's better...Well
21. it's a very interesting story if I do say so myself...You see,
22. at first they planned to have a regular forest ranger for a
23. model. That'd give it realism, they figured,...see. But then
24. it occurred to one of the men in the Chief's Office in
25. Washington, a fellow by the name of MacDonald.....

1. MARY: Jerry, you're making that up.

2. JERRY: No, Mary, that's right. This is another MacDonald, a
3. forest officer...he suggested that they look up some
4. employment agency in New York that places laborers and
5. farmers out of work. He thought that would be a good chance
6. for some man needing work to get a job and at the same time
7. the man's knowledge of handling tools would do the trick of
8. putting realism in the picture. And that's just what they
9. did.

10. BESS: Sounds like a book story doesn't it, Mary?

11. MARY: Then Jerry isn't just making all this up?

12. BESS: No, he's telling the truth. The artist interviewed several
13. men from an employment agency right in New York....

14. JERRY: Yeah, like Mrs. Robbins say, Mary, he tried out several men
15. and let them pose with a longhandled shovel, and then he
16. came to one man who admitted he'd fought fires before and
17. when he picked up the shovel....well, that was the they
18. picked to pose for the painting...Did you say something, Mary?

19. BESS: No, Mary didn't say a thing, Jerry, but I'm going to. Yes,
20. Mary, the man was George MacDonald. Now go on from there,
21. Jerry.

22. JERRY: Well, that's the story, Mary. It's really our old fire-eater
23. on that poster.....

24. MARY: Why, it's the most interesting thing I've ever heard.

25.

Why, it's the most interesting thing I've ever heard.

on that occasion.....

Well, that's the story, Mary. It's really one of the best.

story.

Now, the man was George Macdonald. Now go on from there.

Well, Mary, I don't say a thing, Jerry, but I'm going to.

pleased to hear for the first time. The man was really a

when he picked up the novel.... well, that was the story.

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and let them have with a long-handled shovel, and then

Yeah, like that. I suppose Mary, he tried out several

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Then Jerry says that's making all this up.

Somebody like a book story doesn't it, Mary?

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Robert of New York. He suggested that they look up some

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1. JERRY: Jim found out that George has been pretty hard up this year
2. or so. He'd drifted to New York doing odd jobs here and
3. there and had signed up with this employment agency only a
4. couple days before he was picked for the painting.
5. MARY: Is Mr. Robbins going to send for him and get him back? Oh,
6. I hope he does.
7. JERRY: Yeah, Jim's already wired George care of this employment
8. agency offering him his old fire-boss job and advancing
9. him his car fare back to the Pine Cone....Jim's in town now,
10. waiting for a reply....
11. BESS: No. Jerry, Jim's already back. He's coming now....
12. DOOR OPENS
13. JIM: Hello.
14. JERRY: Hi Jim, did you hear from George?
15. OTHERS: AD LIB QUESTIONS CONCERNING MACDONALD
16. DOOR CLOSES
17. JIM: Here's George's telegram. Read it, Jerry.
18. MARY: Read it out loud, Jerry.
19. JERRY: Give it heer....(READING) Got your telegram and money.
20. Can't say much except God Bless you Jim and look out
21. Old Devil Fire, this ornery fire eater is coming home at
22. last. Signed Mac....(STRAIGHT) Well, that's it folks.
23. And Boy, isn't that great!
- 24.
- 25.

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And Boy, isn't that great!

JERRY:

MARY:

JERRY:

BESS:

JIM:

JERRY:

OTHERS:

JIM:

MARY:

JERRY:

1. BESS: Oh, I'm glad (FADE) so glad.
2. MUSIC: FINALE
3. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each Friday over
4. the National Farm and Home Hour as a presentation of
5. National Broadcasting Company with the cooperation of the
6. United States Forest Service....
7. Now here's some news....Three hundred thousand 1941
8. forest fire prevention posters are right now being
9. distributed to various cooperating agencies all over the
10. country. This new poster, the third in a series painted
11. by the famous artist James Montgomery Flagg, represents a
12. cooperative effort on the part of the American Weekly
13. Magazine and the Forest Service in the cause of forest
14. conservation. I hope that all of you will have the
15. opportunity of seeing and studying this fire prevention
16. poster, aptly titled, "Forest Defense is National Defense."

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23. psc
4:9:41
24.
25.

BESS:

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MUSIC:

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4:09:41